

his home in Prescott, Arizona, and to celebrate the life of this true American original—inventor, manufacturer and business owner.

Although he was not New Hampshire born, Bill Ruger embodied the best of the Granite State. He blazed his own trail, and in the process, turned his name into a recognizable symbol of ingenuity and workmanship.

A native of Brooklyn, Bill Ruger was interested in firearms for virtually his entire life. He received his first rifle from his father at age 12, and as a teenager, read and studied as much as he could on firearms; the history of firearms, their design and how they are manufactured. Bill carried his passion for firearms to the University of North Carolina where as a student he turned a vacant room into a machine shop. His interest in firearms was so keen that while in his early 20's, Bill developed the preliminary plans for a light machine gun for use by the Army.

After two years at North Carolina, Bill left to work at what he loved. He took a job in a gun factory and eventually opened his own business as a toolmaker; a business which did not succeed. Still, during that time, Bill kept experimenting with firearm designs, eventually perfecting a design for a .22 caliber pistol.

In 1949, with a \$50,000 investment from his partner, Alexander Sturm, Bill Ruger founded a firearm manufacturing business in a "little red barn" in Southport, Connecticut. As business increased, Sturm, Ruger and Company expanded, opening new plants including a plant in Newport, New Hampshire in 1963 to produce its own firearms components instead of paying others to do the same. Today, Sturm, Ruger and Company is world-renowned for its more than 50 models of revolvers, police sidearms, target pistols, rifles and shotguns, and has developed a reputation for quality in specialized castings for products in the aerospace field, the automobile industry, medicine and the sport of golf. The company has grown to become America's largest firearms manufacturer and one of New Hampshire's largest employers; all under the watchful eye of Bill Ruger.

Bill Ruger valued his employees and their craftsmanship and would never sell a product he would not have been proud to own himself. This attention to excellence is a fact to which generations of firearms owners, police officers and military personnel will attest.

Beyond the success Bill Ruger enjoyed as a firearms manufacturer, he had many other pursuits and interests including his collection of antique firearms, 19th Century Western American art, and antique automobiles and was particularly known as a generous and charitable man who gave of himself and his finances.

The foundation of his life, though, was his family—his son, William Ruger Jr., who now heads the family business; his daughter, Carolyn Vogel; his six grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. Each held a special place in his heart, as did the memory of his lovely wife, Mary Thompson Ruger, who passed away in 1994, and that of his late son, James Thompson ("Tom") Ruger.

In New Hampshire, Bill Ruger's legacy will remain for decades to come. He was an American original, and those of us fortunate enough to have been able to know Bill will truly miss him.

NEW ALLIES, OLD FORMULA

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deep concern about the undemocratic and totalitarian actions of the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev. He has recently banned several opposition parties, arrested and exiled their leaders, and has made the formation of new parties virtually impossible. He has shut down many newspapers and television stations in Kazakhstan, preventing its citizens from having a free press. Furthermore, President Nazarbayev has reportedly placed \$1 billion dollars of oil revenue into a secret Swiss bank account.

This behavior should not be tolerated and I believe it is important at this time to focus international attention on this situation. President Nazarbayev needs to allow for all legitimate opposition parties and their leaders to run for public office and allow for all exiled political leaders to return to Kazakhstan. He must also allow for a free press, the foundation of any democracy. President Nazarbayev should be held accountable for widespread corruption, including the placement of government funds into secret Swiss bank accounts. I am asking that we insert into the RECORD a July 12th editorial written by the Washington Post Editorial Board which more fully describes the injustices currently occurring in Kazakhstan. [the article follows]

[The Washington Post—Friday, July 12, 2002]

NEW ALLIES, OLD FORMULA

As the United States rushed to strengthen ties to the countries of Central Asia after Sept. 11, one question that quickly arose was whether the new military agreements and economic packages would serve only to bolster the repressive rule of the region's autocrats or whether U.S. influence would also be used to bring about political and economic reform. Some 10 months later the first answers are in, and they are at best mixed. The region's most repressive ruler, Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan, has also proved to be the one most eager to forge a close relationship with Washington; consequently, his government has responded to concerted pressure from the Bush administration with a few modest concessions and promises of more. Elsewhere, however, a couple of new allies may have concluded that their new utility as U.S. security partners empowers them to repress their domestic opponents all the more forcefully.

Nursultan Nazarbayev, the president of Kazakhstan, certainly seems untroubled by any imperative to accept Western norms of democracy or human rights. Though his huge, oil-rich country once appeared to be leading the former Soviet republics of the region in reforming the old system, it has, since Sept. 11, moved steadily in the opposite direction. Mr. Nazarbayev, a former member of the Soviet Politburo who took over Kazakhstan when it became independent and has ruled it ever since, did not take kindly to the formation of an opposition party by former government officials late last year. He arrested and tried several of its leaders, and recently he had his rubber-stamp parliament pass a new law making the legal formation of such parties virtually impossible. The president also did not like reading reports in the Kazakh media about a secret Swiss bank account in which he deposited \$1

billion in oil revenue. A score of newspapers and an equal number of television stations have been forced to shut down in recent months, and a number of journalists have been attacked or threatened.

Mr. Nazarbayev has arrogantly dismissed U.S. complaints about his behavior, just as he has waved off suggestions that he consider allowing more democracy. Instead, he seems to be modeling himself on the long-time U.S. allies in the Persian Gulf. Rather than reform, he signs drilling and pipeline deals that will allow his country to rake in billions in oil income; rather than respect human rights, he offers cooperation with the U.S. military. Just this week his government formalized an agreement with the Bush administration that will allow emergency landings and refuelings for U.S. military planes at Almaty's international airport.

Bush administration officials say they understand that accepting a relationship on such terms is more than a political embarrassment. "Authoritarian governments and largely unreformed economies," Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Lynn Pascoe told a recent congressional hearing, "create the conditions of repression and poverty that could well become the breeding grounds for further terrorism." The question, then, is how to break the old model that Mr. Nazarbayev would renew. As in the Persian Gulf, admonitions from ambassadors, and even rhetoric from the White House, will not be enough; Mr. Nazarbayev must understand that his country's relationship with the United States depends on political change. Does the Pentagon really need another landing arrangement in Central Asia? If such agreements were withheld—or frozen—Mr. Nazarbayev and other Central Asian dictators would be quick to get the message.

CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF SAMATHA RUNNION

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the family and friends of Samatha Runnion, and to all those who have been affected by her tragic murder.

Samantha was abducted from her home in Stanton, California, on Monday, July 15. She was sexually assaulted and murdered, and her body was found the next day in Cleveland National Forest.

President George W. Bush has called on Attorney General John Ashcroft and FBI Director Robert Mueller to order that all federal resources necessary be made available to the Orange County sheriff's office. Rewards totaling more than \$100,000 have been offered by British Petroleum, which employs Samantha's mother, the Coalition of Police and Sheriffs in Santa Ana and others.

What happened to Samantha is deeply disturbing. Why does something like this have to happen to an innocent child? We shouldn't have to keep children off the streets. They should be allowed to go out and play, without fear of such horrendous acts. Parents shouldn't have to worry about their children disappearing the moment they turn their backs.

Sadly, the television has recently been strewn with alarming news of missing children like Samantha, Elizabeth Smart, Jahi Turner,